

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

STEVEN J. HAMROCK, FIDELIS C.
ONWUMERE, BRADFORD B. WRIGHT and
MICHAEL A. YANDRASITS

Serial No.:
Filed:

For: FLOOR FINISH COMPOSITIONS

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

Enter new claims 45 through 66, as shown below.

45. (New) A method for applying a protective coating to a substrate,
comprising:

- (a) applying a coatable acrylated latex primer composition to the substrate;
- (b) drying the primer composition to form an acrylated polymer primer coat over the substrate;
- (c) applying a radiation curable coatable composition to the primer coat;
and
- (d) hardening the radiation curable coatable composition by exposing the composition to ultraviolet radiation to form a protective coating over the substrate.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the substrate comprises a floor.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein the floor comprises vinyl tile.

48. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the radiation curable coatable composition comprises an isocyanurate monomer.

49. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the radiation curable coatable composition comprises a polymerizable monomer selected from the group consisting of an acrylated monomer, an N-vinyl monomer, a vinyl ether, and a styrenic monomer.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the polymerizable monomer is an acrylated monomer.

51. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the radiation curable coatable composition further comprises a photoinitiator.

52. (New) A stripper for a cured coating comprising:

- (a) solvent;
- (b) a coupling agent; and
- (c) water.

53. (New) The stripper of claim 52, wherein the coupling agent is a hydrotrope.

54. (New) The stripper of claim 52, further comprising a dye.

55. (New) The stripper of claim 52, further comprising a thickening agent.

56. (New) The stripper of claim 52, further comprising a fragrance.

57. (New) The stripper of claim 52, further comprising a surfactant.

58. (New) The stripper of claim 52, wherein the stripper comprises water, benzyl alcohol, n-octylamine, glycolic acid, and a surfactant.

59. (New) The stripper of claim 52, wherein the stripper has a neutral pH.

60. (New) A method of stripping a cured coating on a substrate comprising:

- (a) applying the a stripper composition of claim 52 to the cured coating;
- (b) waiting for a period of time sufficient to loosen the cured coating;
- and
- (c) removing the cured coating.

61. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein the cured coating is a cured acrylate coating.

62. (New) A primer composition comprising an acrylated latex, water, a leveling aid, and a surfactant.

63. (New) The primer of claim 62, wherein the primer has a solids content between about 2 and about 40% by weight.

64. (New) The primer of claim 63, wherein the primer has a solids content between about 2 and about 20% by weight.

65. (New) The primer of claim 64, wherein the primer has a solids content between about 4 and about 15% by weight.

66. (New) The primer of claim 62, wherein the leveling aid comprises an ammonium salt of a styrene maleic anhydride copolymer.

Remarks

Support for the new claims is found throughout the application as filed. Favorable consideration of those new claims is respectfully requested, and a notice of allowance solicited.

If a telephonic conference with Applicants' undersigned representative would be of assistance in resolving any outstanding issue in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (651) 733-6750.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter L. Olson
Registration No. 35,308
Attorney for Applicants

PLO:jlh/52506US013 Preliminary Amendment
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
(651) 733-6750
Facsimile: (651) 736-3833

Dated: December 19, 2001